

VERMONT'S EARLY CHILDHOOD STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL

MISSION

To improve the well-being of each and every child and family in Vermont by using evidence to inform policy and bringing voices together to discuss critical challenges and problem solve.



VISION

BBF maintains the vision and strategic plan for Vermont's Early Childhood System. Vermont's vision for the Early Childhood system is to be an integrated continuum of comprehensive, high quality services that is equitable and accessible and will improve outcomes for each and every child in the prenatal period to age eight and their family in Vermont.



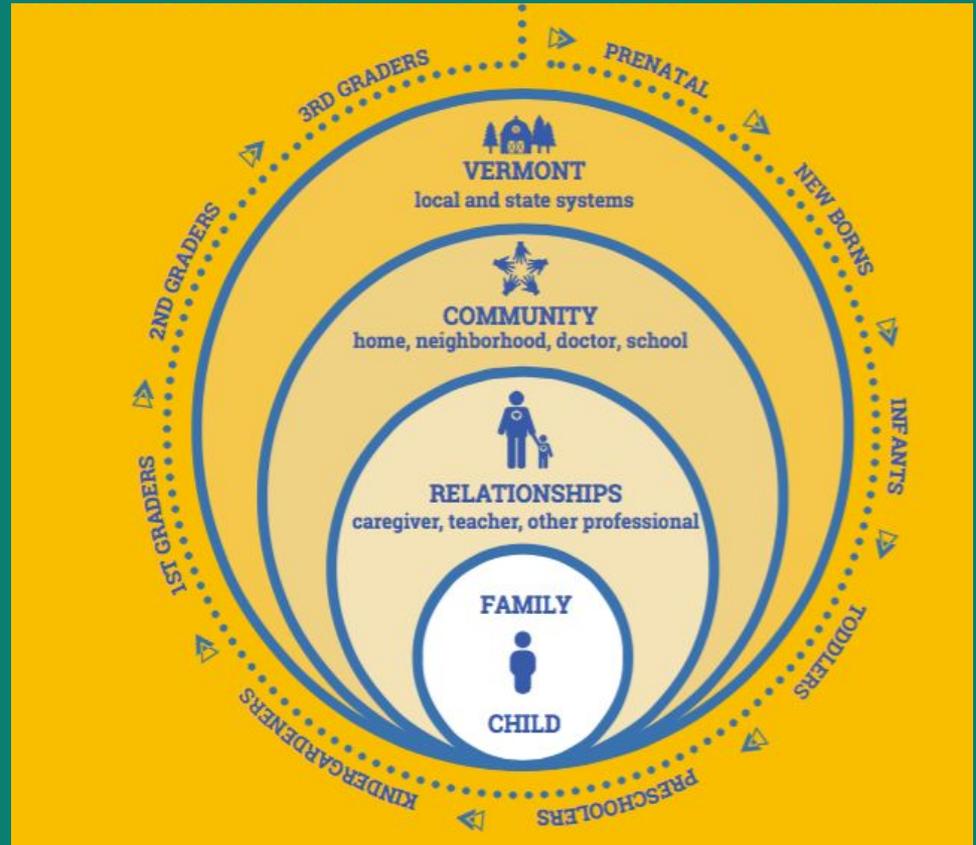
Our Collective Vision for Vermont's Children And Their Families

Goal 4: The early childhood system will be integrated, well resourced and data-informed

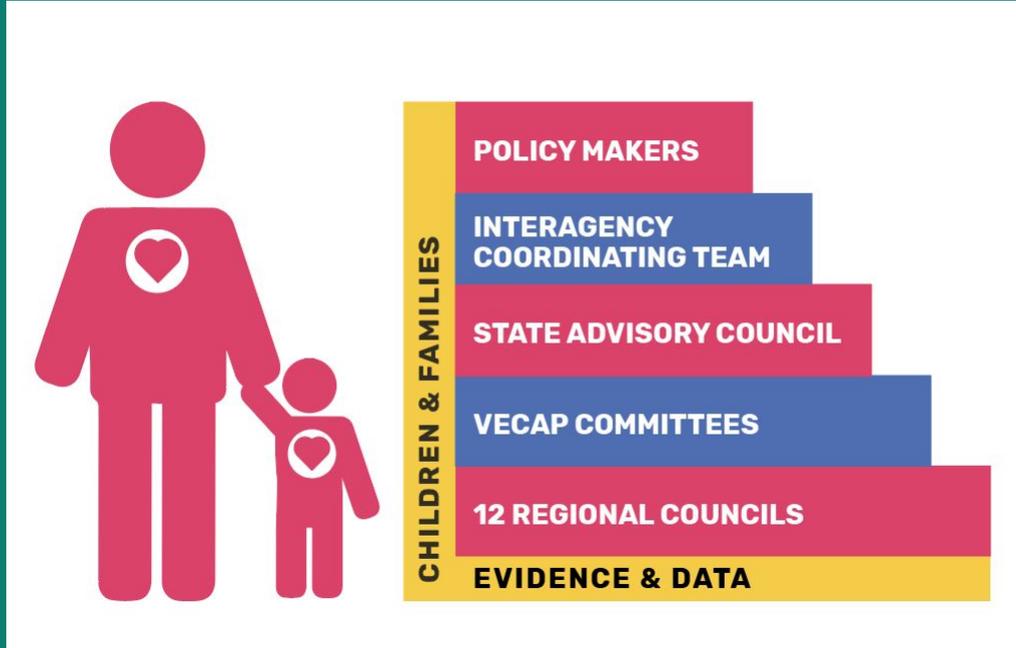
Goal 3: All Children and Families Have Access to High-Quality Opportunities That Meet Their Needs

Goal 2: Families and Communities Play A Leading Role in Children's Wellbeing

Goal 1: All Children Have A Healthy Start



Building Bright Futures Early Childhood Infrastructure and 450+ Person Network



The Building Bright Futures State Advisory Council and network infrastructure is charged by Act 104/Title 33, Chapter 46 to use evidence and data to monitor the system of services and provide the mechanism to support accountability.



Vermont's Early Childhood Data and Policy Center | Vermontkidsdata.org

What is vermontkidsdata.org?

Vermontkidsdata.org is a hub of the most high-quality, up-to-date information on the status of children and families across sectors. It is a critical tool for answering policy questions by centralizing data from the complex early childhood system.



Vermont's Early Childhood Data & Policy Center



Data Question

Do you have a question about early childhood data in Vermont? For example, the status of universal prekindergarten education (UPK)?

Data Dashboard

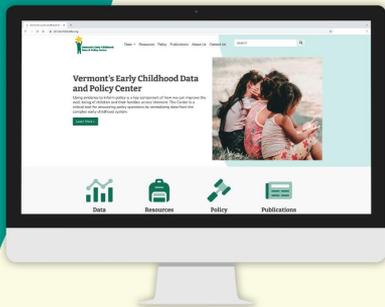
Vermontkidsdata.org includes searchable individual data points across sectors (mental health, basic needs, child development, and education). For UPK, the data dashboard contains the most recent data on UPK enrollment.

Publications

The publications page is a robust collection of Vermont-specific and national publications by topic. The page is organized to provide a broad overview of each component of the early childhood system and dive into what is known about a particular topic. UPK publications include official documents, studies, and reports that can be used to inform policy development.

Policy

The policy sections outline how the BBF Network and State Advisory Council identify priorities, make recommendations, and track progress on those recommendations. Other policy work includes documentation of legislative testimony, data briefs, and analysis of and advisement on federal legislation. UPK is a clear priority identified in the 2021 Policy Recommendations under "Develop a Well-Resourced Early Care and Education System."



What's next?

Vermontkidsdata.org provides the foundation for Vermonters to understand what data and evidence exist (and what is missing) to build an early childhood system that is integrated, well-resourced, and data-informed (VECAP Goal 4). Two mechanisms that will be used to support this work are Early Childhood Grand Rounds and the Data and Evaluation Committee.

Vermontkidsdata.org is a program of Building Bright Futures

- **DATA:** A data dashboard, National and Vermont-specific datasets, data spotlights, and fact sheets
- **POLICY:** Early Childhood Policy updates, SAC Network recommendations, memos on Build Back Better, and BBF Legislative Testimony
- **PUBLICATIONS:** Reports and publications from BBF, agency, community and national partners, recorded research presentations, webinars, and coming soon, Early Childhood Grand Rounds



Early Childhood Workforce Challenges & Vacancies



Mental Health

- 18% vacancy rate in October 2022

Head Start:

- 17% of staff left during the program year

Child Care

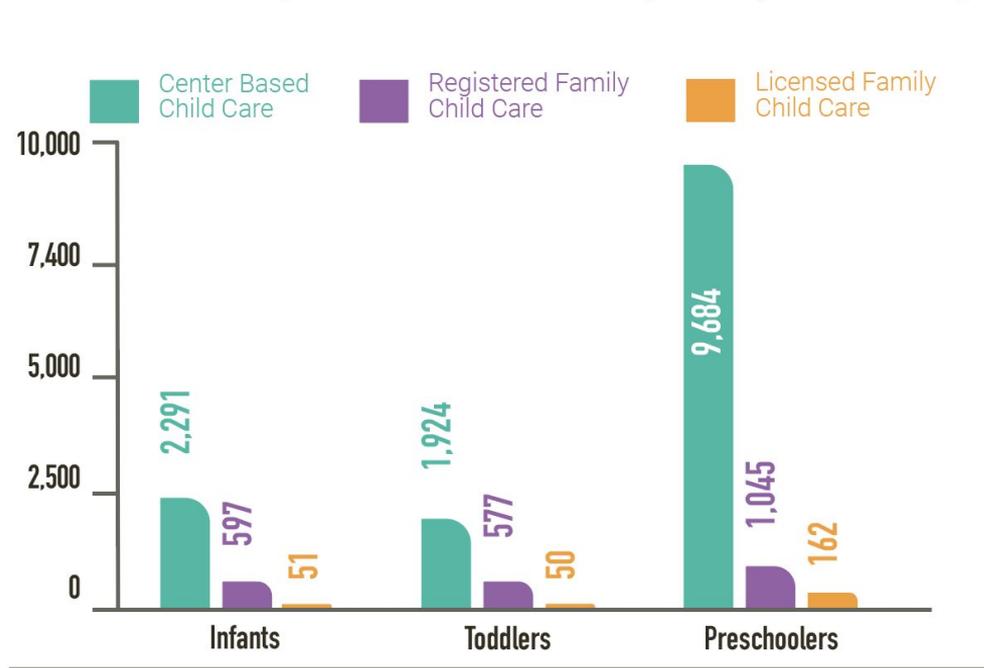
- 16% fewer staff from 2018 to 2021



Child Development & Education

Early Care and Education

Enrollment in Regulated Child Care Programs (2021 - 2022)



- Child Care Enrollment: **16,381 children** enrolled in regulated early childhood education programs.
- Quality & Access: 76% of infants, 54% of toddlers and 52% of preschoolers do not have access to high-quality programs
- Afterschool: **19,092 children** served in afterschool programs



2023 POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE VERMONT EARLY CHILDHOOD STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL NETWORK



- Value of care coordination
- Housing as a critical basic need
- Elevating and compensating lived experience and family voice
- Early childhood education workforce
- Quality early childhood care and education
- Mental health workforce, services, and trauma and resilience training
- Collective legislative action and monitoring and accountability in early childhood governance
- Inequities in data collection and reporting

